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SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" May I know from the Hon. the Chief Minister whether the films have been insured against damage by fire or any other cause? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I should not venture to answer this question without making an enquiry; I think, no, Sir."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Government property is not usually insured."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" I believe there are rules framed by the Corporation of Madras according to which only in buildings certified by the Corporation as fit for storing films, could films be allowed to be stored. May I know whether this building has been certified by the Corporation as a proper building for the storage of films? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Rules and practices with reference to Government property are necessarily different from private properties or the properties of Corporations. An insurance company does not insure its own property; there is a point at which we have to stop and the Government is supposed to be the highest insurance institution in the State and there is no meaning in the Government insuring its own property with its citizens. As I said at the outset, I am not sure if it was insured. I am only answering on the basis of a general principle."

Provincialization of municipal hospitals and dispensaries.

* 24 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any scheme for provincialization of Municipal Hospitals and Dispensaries;

(*b*) whether any such municipal institutions have been taken over by the Government during the last three years; and

(*c*) whether the Vaniyambadi Municipal Council has proposed that the Municipal Hospital be taken over by the Government and whether the proposal has been sanctioned?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) There is a scheme for the gradual taking over by the State of Taluk Headquarters Hospitals, whether local fund or municipal. The scheme was first introduced in the year 1928.

" (*b*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*c*) The municipal council has applied for the provincialization of the hospital but the proposal has not yet been sanctioned."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" May I know what are the hospitals that are proposed to be taken over by the Government during the current year? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There is a provision to take over three hospitals this year."

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SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" Would it be possible for the Hon. Minister to tell the House what those hospitals are? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" That will be decided only after the Budget is passed."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" In view of the financial stringency, would it not be in order to defer such provincialization schemes? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The Government were taking over about six institutions every year but this year, the number has been reduced to three."

Working of the system of postal voting.

* 25 Q.—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have sent a report to the Election Commission on the working of the system of postal voting in the recent elections to the Legislative Council in this State; and

(b) whether steps will be taken to remedy the defects, if any (vide " Ramarajya ", dated 20th March 1952)?

THE HON. C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) The answer is in the negative.

" (b) The question whether any change is called for in the rules relating to postal ballot, is under the consideration of the Government, and the Government of India who are the rule-making authority under the Representation of the People Act, 1951, will be addressed if any change is considered necessary. The articles in the ' Ramarajya ' referred to by the hon. Member do not suggest any changes in the rules."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" Are the Government aware that many responsible gentlemen do not approve of the scheme of postal ballot and in fact the hon. Sri K. Bhashyam and others have expressed themselves against the system of postal ballot? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I thank the hon. Member for the information."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to convey the opinion expressed by hon. Sri K. Bhashyam and local newspapers to the Government of India for necessary action on their part? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I do not know whether the local newspaper mentioned by the hon. Member is so prominent as to warrant its views being communicated to the Election Commission. With regard to the other suggestion, certainly it will be taken into consideration."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" Owing to the alleged corruption during the elections, will the Government take